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"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL"

UCAPAWA News

UNITED CANNERY, AGRICULTURAL, PACKING AND ALLIED WORKERS OF AMERICA-CIO

Vol. IV, No. 6 | March 15, 1944 | Price 5 Cents

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No Compromise On Soldier Vote!

Washington, D. C. (FP)—CIO Pres. Philip Murray March 6 blasted the compromise reached on the soldier vote bill as "a complete surrender of principle."

In a letter to all members of the house and senate, Murray urged them to reject the conference report on the bill and to adopt instead S 1612, "or a measure modelled on it."

STEALS THE VOTE

A similar demand was voiced by the CIO political action committee, which described the compromise as a "soldier vote stealing bill." The committee urged a record vote on the bill, calling it the handiwork of Rep. John Rankin (D., Miss.) and the house Republican leadership.

"The conference agreement reportedly reached on the soldiers' vote bill reduces the issue to a technical absurdity which will actually disfranchise the few servicemen who were enfranchised by the 1942 act," Murray asserted.

"The recommended procedure is unworkable," he continued. "Its obvious effect will be to harass and bedevil the serviceman to the point where he will give up in despair of achieving his democratic right to vote."

In raising the obscure states rights issue as opposed to a simple, uniform federal ballot, foes of effective soldier voting "have acted in the hope of wearing down both the interest of the nation and the resolution of those in Congress who are intent on seeing that every serv[illegible]man gets a chance to vote," he said.

FDR WOULD VETO

Proponents of a federal ballot in the Senate are banking on a veto by President Roosevelt, who informed a press conference the week before that the veto yardstick would be whether the new bill enfranchises more servicemen than the 1942 law.

Penick And Ford Louisiana Plant Swings Into CIO

New Orleans, La.—Workers at Penick and Ford here, in spite of all company efforts to hold them to its apron strings, voted for UCAPAWA by 72 to 51 in an NLRB election on Feb. 24. Makers of Bre'r Rabbit syrup, Penick and Ford is organized as a division of Local 91, the El Trelles cigar local. Last fall when Supt. Greer got wind of the Union sentiment, he applied to the War Labor Board for a 5c increase, which was granted in some jobs, according to Int. Rep. Harry Koger. "Just by accident," the pay off of this increase was timed a few days before the election.

BOSS TALK DIDN'T STICK

Other Greer activities included an impassioned speech during a lunch hour back in January, telling the workers that the CIO "could do nothing for them," and blasting CIO's program of seniority and job security. A fly in this Greer syrup was Koger who was on hand to explain CIO unionism. Net result of the meeting was more UCAPAWA-CIO membership applications.

Immediately following the election victory, Joseph Ross, Port Agent of the National Maritime [illegible] other CIO unions, and advise to "get the non-members signed up so that when you go to your boss for a contract you will be strong and united."

With some 110 white and about 30 Negro people employed at the plant, the workers have refused to become divided on race lines. Members of the Negotiating Committee, which includes one Negro are: Robert Blanchard, Ward Dubrieul, Agatha Robertson and Moyse H. Jones.

Negotiations for the first contract on which will be investigated by the NLRB. The Union had already placed charges of unfair labor practice in the hands of the Labor Board which, however, had held up action pending the result of negotiations with the Company.

U.S.A. IN ON CONTRACT

One glance at the Reynolds' proposals for the contract to cover the 12,000 workers, convinced the Bargaining Committee that the U. S. Conciliation Service should be called in immediately to assist in negotiations. The document was produced by management at the end of the two weeks' time which it had asked to consider the union proposals. Hargrove dryly labels the Reynolds notion of a union contract as fit only for a museum of antiques—certainly a far cry from the CIO's standards of a contract rights in settling grievances.

18 Reynolds Workers Win Back Their Jobs

Winston-Salem, N. C.—As the result of Union negotiations with the R. J. Reynolds Co. (Camels), 18 workers who were discharged before the election in December have been reinstated to their jobs with full seniority rights. "Many of those who have been victims of the propaganda of the R. J. Reynolds Association (company union), are viewing with surprise, the return to work of Union leaders who the Company said would never be reemployed," reports Frank Hargrove, Chairman of the Tobacco Workers [illegible] committee.

Gain $800,000 in Planter's Contract

Suffolk, Va.—The new contract at the big Planter's Peanut company has been signed here, according to a telegram from Int. Rep. A. J. Marcus. Provisions include maintenance of membership, checkoff, vacations, holidays, seniority and good wage raises totaling eight hundred thousand dollars.

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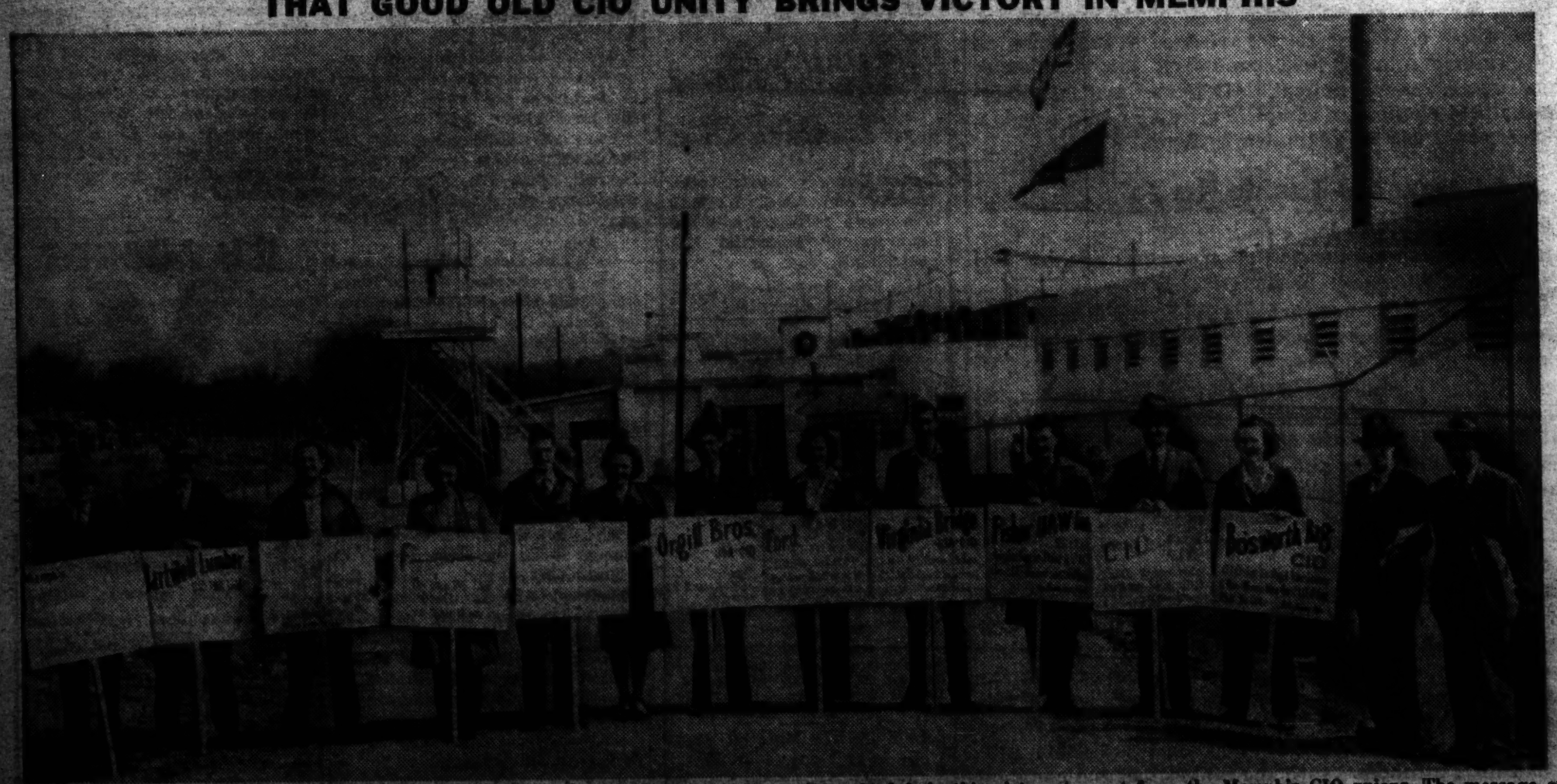
THAT GOOD OLD CIO UNITY BRINGS VICTORY IN MEMPHIS



For seven years, 1,500 workers at the American Finishing Co. in Memphis, Tenn., were in the AFL. But when they got a chance to vote in an NLRB election, they turned in a two to one landslide for TWUA-CIO. Some 607 voted CIO, with the other 270 votes divided between AFL and "no union." UCAPAWA's sign is third from the left in this victory turnout from the Memphis CIO unions. The message on the UCAPAWA placard is: "Local 19, UCAPAWA—Contracts in 21 Memphis Plants—We Work Less Hours and Make More Money Under the CIO Now." It is this kind of accomplishment and progress that is making Memphis a CIO-town.

Facing Our Problems

It's Up To Us To Clean Up Congress

By DONALD HENDERSON, *General President*

THE central problem in the 1944 elections for labor and the common people of America is, first, to guarantee the election of a win-the-war, pro-labor president and administration, and second, to wipe out the present hamstringing, anti-labor, reactionary majority block in Congress.

It is easier to elect one man to the presidency of the United States who expresses and stands for the common people's interests in winning the war and building democracy here at home, than it is to defeat several hundred Congressmen and Senators who have ganged up to cut labor's throat and play reactionary political games with the war. But we must do **both** jobs. Look at the record of Congress.

A Black Record

1) The President's seven-point program of April, 1942 was cut to pieces by the refusal of Congress to pass the necessary laws stabilizing cost of living, limiting large incomes, providing for fair taxation, and limiting excess profits.

2) They passed the Smith-Connally anti-strike bill over the President's veto in an effort to put labor on the spot even though they knew that the bill contained nothing that was needed to stop strikes.

3) This reactionary majority has passed, over the President's veto, a tax law designed to "aid the greedy rather than the needy."

4) Year after year they have fought adequate subsidies to farmers and other producers that are necessary to keep down the cost of living.

5) This reactionary majority in Congress has blocked and still blocks consideration and passage of the anti-poll tax bill which restores democracy to millions of whites and Negroes in the South.

6) This reactionary majority is still trying to foist a "fraud," according to the President, on the A[illegible] which would steal their vote.

7) Through the establishment of reactionary Congressional committees they have kept up constant investigation and threats of the War Labor Board and the National Labor Relations Board, so as to hinder and obstruct their work in the interests of labor.

Any sign of liberal, pro-labor policies developed by the War Labor Board or National Labor Relations Board has immediately been met with threats of investigation or actual investigation.

It is the threat of this reactionary, anti-labor majority in Congress more than anything else which forces the War Labor Board to continue the Little Steel Formula policy on the wage front.

8) This reactionary majority in Congress by all its accounts, has shown it is ready to block any peace that is a pro-labor, common people's peace. It should be remembered that two-thirds of the Senate are required to pass upon all treaties entered into by this country. **If this reactionary majority in Congress is not cut down to an impotent minority in the 1944 elections, a complete disruption of a people's, pro-labor peace will be attempted by them.**

How We Tackle the Job

This shocking record of a majority of the present Congressmen and Senators means that every CIO member and every union member must tackle two jobs:

1) More effective pressure and public resentment must be aroused against these reactionaries on all the current issues pending before Congress.

2) All our members and officers of our Locals must check over the record of each of their Congressmen and Senators on the basis of the above record and on other key measures. How did they vote? Are they part of this reactionary majority in Congress? If so, they must be defeated in the 1944 elections. The common people, not just labor, must be acquainted with their record as an anti-labor, anti-war and reactionary record.

This requires Congressional District work. It requires ward work and neighborhood work. First comes registration. Then work in the primaries, and later work to acquaint the common people in your communities with the actual concrete reactionary record of the members of this majority block in Congress whose actions, and whose record prove their anti-win-the-war attitude, their anti-labor attitude and their attitude against the interests of the common people.

STOP THE WRECKERS!

From Hotel & Club Voice

Forward March! by HAROLD J. LANE, *Secretary-Treasurer*

JOIN YOUR STATE CIO COUNCIL

ALL Local Unions should be affiliated to State CIO Councils and City CIO Councils. The affiliation fee to State Councils is nominal—in most instances running from a total of $2 to $5 for the entire Local.

The affiliation fee is payable only once. The per capita to State CIO Councils in most instances is 2c for each dues paying member that you have in your Local Union. This per capita is paid monthly.

The value received by Local Unions affiliated to State CIO Councils far outweighs the amount of money they spend in per capita.

State CIO Councils have played an important role in the progress [illegible] work today is a major factor in helping to consolidate, coordinate and unite the labor movement on a State-wide scale in support of the Win-the-War Program of the CIO. All local unions, regardless of their International affiliation, affiliate to State Councils on a democratic basis. The majority of the constitutions of the State CIO Councils limits the number of members to the State Executive Board from each International Union, and in this manner provides for representation on a broader scale to the locals from International Unions that may have a smaller number of total members in the State.

While there are a multitude of important functions that the State Councils are performing, space limits me to the mention of only two.

Unity of Labor

1. Labor Unity. There are many important issues which affect the welfare of the membership (regardless of the affiliation) on which the CIO, AFL and Railroad Brotherhoods can unite on and carry on collective activity.

After all, in the final analysis, organic unity will not be accomplished at the top, but will be accomplished through better cooperation, better understanding and working together of all groups. When we work closer together to secure certain objectives and the results of this work are apparent to all, then the day of organic unity is much closer.

Political Action

[illegible] state is a political subdivision of our national government. It necessarily follows that labor should also have its subdivision of national organization, and this is especially important at the present time.

It should be apparent to all of us that the 1944 elections will be the most important elections in the history of our country.

The reactionary, anti-labor, anti-Roosevelt, anti-win-the-war forces are well organized and are attempting in every manner to take away from the workers the benefits which organized labor has obtained by long, bitter fighting and sacrifices. These forces have actually gained strength during the last two years while President Roosevelt was directing our military front and labor was engaged in its all-out production battle on the home front.

Some of these gains for the forces of reaction are the Smith-Connally Bill, the fight against subsidies, the "help-the-greedy" tax bill, and knifing the soldier-vote bill.

On all of these issues the reactionary, anti-labor forces have completely closed their eyes to the welfare of the common, everyday workers and citizens of our nation.

Fight Native Fascism

We must be aware of the dangers that confront us. We cannot afford to be maneuvered into a position whereby we win the battle against fascism on the military front and allow our home-grown fascists to gain control in our own country on the political front.

State CIO Councils provide the framework wherein all Local Unions can utilize their collective strength on a State-wide scale.

Every local union should be affiliated to its respective State CIO Councils and fully participate in all of the activities of the Councils.

A Good Investment

Yes! It costs money. But, we cannot afford to be penny-wise and pound foolish. The cost is an affiliation fee and per capital payment once a month on each member and the expenses of delegates to State Conference and the State Conventions.

This cost must be provided from the local treasury. The expenses involved must be considered on the basis of the importance of the work which the State Councils are performing and this expense should be considered as one of the minimum requirements in every local union's budget.

If your local union is not affiliated to its respective State CIO Council, then steps should be taken to do so immediately. Local union Executive Boards should write to the secretary of the State Council; secure information on the cost of affiliation and per capita tax, and upon receipt of this information, have a discussion in the local Executive Board and pass a resolution in favor of affiliation and have this resolution approved at your next membership meeting.

Narrow Arguments

There can be no excuse for any local union not being affiliated to its respective State CIO Council. There should be no argument put forth against affiliation on the basis of "we haven't got the money," or, "we can't afford it." This type of argument is narrow; it is incorrect, and it absolutely closes our eyes to our responsibilities to our rank-and-file members and our responsibilities on a broader scale to the rest of the labor movement.

We must constantly bear in mind that this is one of the requirements of a local union that is to operate in a sound, business-like, efficient manner, and funds should be provided on the basis of "how much does it cost to do our job right?" and not on the basis of some amount that was arbitrarily set for dues in 1937.

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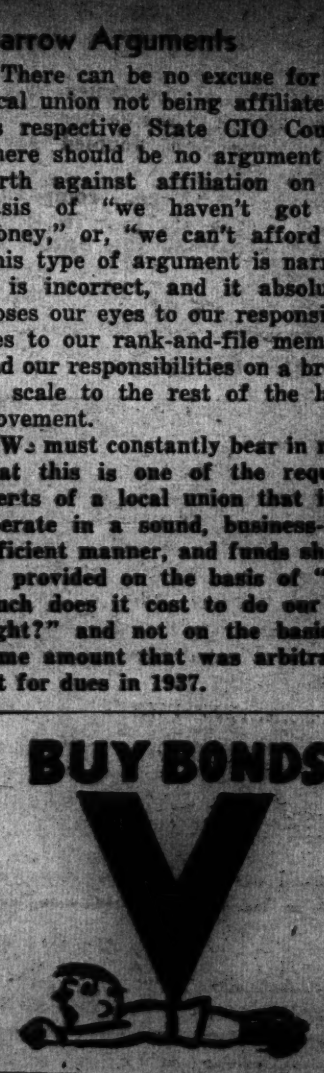


FLASH!

In spite of stiff protest by the packing interests, UCAPAWA has been certified as bargaining agent by the NLRB at four citrus packing sheds in the Lindsay-Porterville, Calif. area. The sheds, where elections were won on Jan. 12, are: Granada, Sunflower, Richgrove-Jasmine and Porterville Citrus.

"Lest We Forget"

Dedicated to Kenneth Hamaker and Paul Knight, who were murdered in El Centro, Imperial Valley, Calif., Feb. 17, 1935

Another year has rolled around,
Making it nine in all,
Since two of our boys were murdered
On the shed of Martin Wahl.

The crew on the shed were not working;
They had asked for a raise that night,
And the ones selected as spokesmen
Were Hamaker and Knight.

The boys went to the office,
And tried to explain why they
Should have the raise they had asked for,
Or not go to work that day.

The boss said "to hell with the workers,
You ———— make me tired."
He shouted like a madman
"Get back to work, or you're fired."

The crew all started to walk away;
The two boys led the pack,
Then out steps a dirty law-man,
And shoots them both in the back.

That's why we must not forget them,
We must keep their memory alive.
They died for the "Cause of Labor"
In that Spring of '35.

Their bodies lie on the Desert,
In graves of shifting sand,
In the heart of Imperial Valley,
Vigilante land.

By Bernice Johnson, Member, Local 78

Facts the "Food Trust" Does Not Mention

Canning Profits Soar To 30 Million Dollars

PROFITS in the fruit and vegetable canning industry are flourishing—and then some—according to an Office of Price Administration study which shows that 39 fruit and vegetable canners rolled up a neat $30 million in profit in 1942. Almost daily, these "Food Trust" interests masquerading as the "Farm Bloc" in Washington, yell against higher taxes on profits, and against subsidies to keep prices down. Yet do we hear even so much as a whisper about the profits enjoyed by the canners?

The $30,000,000 profit was made on sales of $319 million. Comparing the 1942 figures to the average of the years 1936 through 1939, the study discloses that profits rose over 400 percent on an 84 percent increase in sales.

Now perhaps this skyrocketing profit of $30 million was copped off by one or two of the biggest, most favorably placed canners? Not on your life. The OPA shows that:

- Nine companies which made no profit in 1936-1939, all made a profit in 1942, over $2 million for the 19 of them.
- Of the 30 companies which showed profits in the earlier years, all but one had doubled their profit by 1942.
- Some 15 of these companies showed profits at least 10 times the amount of the 1936-1939 record.
- Profits of one of the large companies and of 12 of the small ones increased 1,000 percent or more.

Tidy increases in profit, without a doubt. But there's another angle. Perhaps this industry was so put to it that back in 1936-1939 it did not succeed in making much on its invested capital? Perhaps this increase of 400 percent in profit, reaching $30 million in 1942 is only the just due for people who have put their money into the canneries?

22 PERCENT PROFIT RATE

One simple figure—out of the mass produced by OPA—answers this question. Profits as a percent of invested capital were 22.5 percent in 1942. In terms of dollars and cents, that is over 22c returned on every dollar of investment in one year alone. (Compare this to the modest sum of 2.9 per cent—or about 3c per year on the dollar—which we get on War Bonds.

Or put it this way, in 1942 none of the canneries earned less than 5 percent on invested capital. All of the large canneries and all but two of the small canneries earned 10 percent or more, and 11 of them earned 50 percent or more on their invested capital—50c in one year, for $1 invested.

Quite an array of figures for the contemplation of cannery workers and all the other workers who are plugging along, working, producing and yet are told by certain Congressmen that Roosevelt is a no-good for vetoing a tax bill which did not hit profits harder; or that subsidies to hold down prices are somehow wicked.

WE NEED PRODUCTION

Take a look at this one. OPA says:

"The urgent need for maximum production, despite controlled prices, has made necessary some measure of compensation by Government agencies for rising material and labor costs. So long as this cost-adjustment policy is continued, profit margins of fruit and vegetable canners will remain well above pre-war levels, regardless of changes in dollar profits resulting from variations in the size of packs."

This looks to us like a forthright statement that in order to get full production for the Armed Forces, the home front and our Allies of canned goods, Uncle Sam has to allow the canners lush profits. We sure do need every bit of canned goods we can get, no doubt about that.

HOW ABOUT SUBSIDIES?

But how does it fit when these same canners through their mouthpieces in Congress turn around and lambast labor for such simple and necessary measures as subsidies to stop rising living costs? It doesn't fit.

Prices paid by the government for canned goods, for instance, which assure these profits, are actually nothing more nor less than subsidies for profits—as the price of obtaining our desperately needed full production. It's just as important to war production that working men and women and their children be assured food at fair prices, as it is for canners to enjoy guaranteed profit levels ranging 400 per cent above pre-war levels.

How About A No-Firing Pledge, Shipper Gould?

By Murtice Rogers, Press Agent

Perrine, Fla.—The most recent battle between the shippers of So. Dade County and the packing house employees of Local 9 resulted in the dismissal of three of the Union members, Sisters Willa Inlow, Fanny Smith and Pearl Mizell.

Their employer gave no reason for discharging them, but the house man stated that their work was perfectly satisfactory. The only logical conclusion would be that they were fired for Union activities.

A suit has been filed against their former employer, J. W. Campbell of Goulds. Mr. Campbell has publicly stated that his and other shippers' crops are ruining in the fields because of labor shortage, and yet there is obvious prejudice against Union help.

These shippers got very patriotic and waved flags to arouse public opinion against organized labor striking during war time, and yet they forgot the "minor detail" of calling the workers to work, if they happened to be union members.

It is unfair labor practices of this kind that Local 9 and the Union as a whole so strongly opposes. The shippers pull no punches and bar no holds in their determination to break up the Union. On the other hand, Local 9 is made up of a scrapping bunch of people who show no signs of weakening.

National WLB Orders Higher Pay At Cudahy

Memphis, Tenn.—The Fourth Regional War Labor Board got its wrist slapped by the National Board recently when it was ordered to reconsider the wage dispute between Local 19 and the Cudahy Products Co. In the light of the most recent policy of the Fourth Region on substandard wages, the National Board recommended that the minimum pay at Cudahy be set at approximately 50c, and that wage differentials between men, women and minors be eliminated.

After considering the Cudahy case for four months, the Regional Board last September issued an unsatisfactory directive order which awarded 3c increases for all classifications below 50c per hour and no increases for those now getting that rate. This did not bring the pay at Cudahy up to the level of six other cotton oil processing plants in Memphis, under contract with Local 19 which have already secured 50c minimums through the Board.

VIOLATED EQUAL PAY

Furthermore, the Regional Board's order failed to eliminate differences in pay between men and women and men under 21, which violated the accepted Board policy of granting equal pay for equal work.

The Union immediately petitioned the National Board to review the case on the basis that a 50c minimum was necessary to correct substandards of living and to equalize wages with those existing in the same industry in the city.

The Board was also urged to grant 5c increases above the 50c classification and to grant equal pay for equal work. The retroactive date was requested to be set at May 28, the date of certification of the case.

INCONSISTENT POLICIES

In substantially upholding the Union's demands, the National Board put its finger on the inconsistent policies which the Fourth Regional Board has been following, policies which have caused hardships to the unions which are struggling to raise the standards of living in Southern industry.

If the Regional Board fails to issue a satisfactory order as a result of the National Board's recommendation, the Union will again appeal the case to Washington.

Cotton Locals Plan Expansion, Enter Politics

By Dixie Tiller, Reg. Dir.

Tulare, Calif.—Considering their problems in the light present war conditions, delegates from the UCAPAWA cotton compresses in this area drew up plans to throw their Locals solidly into high gear on political and other issues, at a conference here on Feb. 20. Some 30 delegates were present from Local 272 in Bakersfield and Local 254 in Fresno and Tulare.

SEEK DUES INCREASE

After considerable discussion the delegates adopted these four points to take back to their membership for approval:

1. To amalgamate Locals 254 and 272.
2. To increase employed dues to $1.50 per month; unemployed dues to $.50 per month.
3. To make the permit fee $1.00 per week.
4. To appoint a committee composed of Elijah Fifer, Local 272 Pres., Herbert Lawrence, Local 254 Vice-Pres. and George Johnson, Local 254 Pres. to draw up a program to be submitted to the membership.

Excellent contracts with Union Shop are in effect in Fresno and Tulare with the Western Compress, owned by the Anderson-Clayton outfit, the same Will S. Clayton who is now Asst. Secretary of Commerce and in Bakersfield with the San Joaquim Compress, owned by the West Bros.

TO OUST CONGRESSMEN

Already a campaign for registering-to-vote every eligible member is well under way, with Deputy Registrars making the compresses at agreed times. There is no poll tax in California and many of our members will be voting for the first time.

Gearhart (Rep.) of Fresno is one of those who voted to override the President's veto of the infamous tax bill. Elliott, although a Democrat, representing the Tulare and Bakersfield districts also voted against the President. Everything possible is being done to get rid of them this year.

By amalgamation and dues increase it is hoped that the Union will be able to finance a full-time Business Agent, at least for the busy season, to help the members carry out their program to make themselves a dominant force for good and welfare for all workers in their communities.

John L. Lewis and Pegler— Birds of a Feather . . .

NEWS ITEM: (From New York World-Telegram, Feb. 28)—At the conclusion of an exclusive interview today with John L. Lewis, a Scripps-Howard reporter said to the Mine Union President: "You sound like Westbrook Pegler." "Believe it or not," said Mr. Lewis, "I read him every day."
We believe it.

Courtesy UE NEWS

Campbell Registers

Chicago, Ill. — Campbell Soup and the other divisions in Local 194 here have launched a register-to-vote campaign. Using cards provided by the CIO Political Action Committee, the Stewards are aiming to get down in black and white the members' voting District, Ward, number of the voters in the family and other information to be used in building CIO's voting strength in each District.

On March 1, the Campbell Soup division is starting a contest to see which member can bring in the most checkoff cards. The first prize will be a $50 Bond, second prize a $25 Bond and other prizes in war stamps.

UNION MEN IN UNIFORM

Who Would Rob The Soldiers?

By Jennie Stiver, Press Agent, Local 55

Who robbed the soldiers of their birth right?
Not I said the school boy, 'tis my brothers who fight
They are fighting for me, not me you quote
I say my brothers have a right to vote.
Not I, said the workers, we back their fight
We wouldn't rob them of their birth right,
We're working long hours day and night
To send them material with which to fight
We buy bonds and stamps with our every dime
They have a right to vote every time.

Not I said the merchant, I did not say,
To take the soldiers vote away,
My boy is fighting like a man
I'll back him with everything I can
If the fight is lost, where am I?
I don't want my boy to die
He helps to keep America free
Let him vote, take that from me.

Well, who tried to rob them of their birth right?
'Twas Congressmen who don't have to fight
Let's vote them out of their cozy den
Let's fill their places with men who are men.
Shame on the men with graying hair
Who would rob the soldiers over there
If they won't give the boys their right
Wake up, CIO, this is our fight
Back President Roosevelt, give our boys a break
They are fighting and dying for freedom's sake.

Write Him A Letter, Says Johnnie Tisa

Several months ago when Johnnie Tisa — now S/Sgt. Tisa in the Army Air Force at Tinker Field in Oklahoma City — was interviewing a string of new men, who should turn up but Melvin W. Funk, Local 80 member who worked in preparatory, third floor at the Campbell Soup, Camden, N. J. plant. Bro. Tisa told the story when he dropped in to the News office in the course of a short leave recently.

"I asked him where he was from," said Tisa. "Camden, N. J.," was the answer which made Tisa's ears prick up. Then he said "Aren't you Johnnie Tisa?" And there they were, Union brothers landed in the same outfit.

Bro. Funk, now a Corporal, is an airplane crew chief and mechanic. He makes runs on cargo planes carrying valuable cargo. Bro. Tisa was an international representative, and, before that, a Campbell soup worker.

DOUSED BY STRIKE TALK

S/Sgt. Tisa and Cpl. Funk are often in the thick of a debate about unions. The soldiers, says Tisa, get a good dose of anti-union talk from the newspapers, and many of them are led to believe that union men and women think only about getting better wages and strikes, while they, the G. I. Joes, are sweating in the Army.

"Bro. Funk and I and other union men of course give the true facts about unions," says Tisa, "but I hope and trust that every UCAPAWA member is doing his share to keep in touch with friends in the Armed Forces. Too often the boys feel forgotten and out of touch with home. That's when they fall for the anti-union talk.

"There's nothing like a letter from home telling of his union's war work in his town, of the hours of hard work being put into the plant and of the union's no-strike record—that's what makes a soldier sure that those back home are standing shoulder to shoulder with him," Tisa concluded.

War Hero Invests His Savings In War Bonds

By Florence Portice, Pres. and Press Agent

Saginaw, Mich.—Sgt. Ernest Erskine, one of the first boys to leave Local 68, Dailey Pickle, has received his second Purple Heart award. He was seriously wounded in Tunis, and again in Sicily.

ERNEST ERSKINE

Putting some of us to shame during the Fourth War Loan Drive, Brother Erskine wrote home asking his mother to invest his savings in a $500 bond. "I am still here on this bond drive in Pittsburgh," Sgt. Erskine wrote. "I am having a good time, and they claim we are doing a job here. Say, Mom, I want you or Dad to get me a $500 bond before the end of this drive.

"I was figuring on coming home last week, but they asked me to come down here. So I changed my mind because I figure I am helping the boys who are fighting so hard at Rome.

"So I don't know when I will get home now. I am still using my crutches."

Shoo, Shoo, Baby— Buy a Bond for Dad

Middletown, Ohio—The youngest member of Local 55 is Sharen Elaine McQuitty, born on Feb. 14. Her parents Roy Edward McQuitty, Seaman 1st Class, and Alvina Frye McQuitty were both members of Local 55 at P. Lorillard.

Her father still does not know of her arrival, because he is at sea, but Sharen Elaine has already accumulated enough money to buy a bond to help Daddy come home.

Job Insurance, Lasting Peace Soldiers Urge

What are our boys fighting for? Job insurance, housing and medical care and international collaboration for a lasting peace according to a nationwide poll of servicemen conducted by the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce.

The 31 questions asked covered many personal and economic topics, and were designed to give a cross section of thinking among our fighting men.

Here are some of the questions asked and the replies given in percentages:

"Should some preparation be made NOW to meet postwar problems?" Yes, 94 percent; no, 6 percent.

JOB CONTROL

"In your opinion, after the war will it be necessary for the government to take the lead in solving our economic problems, or will American business be capable of doing this job?" Government, 69 percent; business, 31 percent. (Only 14 percent favored permanent government action, while 86 percent favored it only as a temporary policy.)

"In peacetime, would you favor unemployment compensation for everybody, in all lines of work?" Yes, 70 percent; no, 30 percent.

MEDICAL CARE

"Any time, do you favor organized medical care: for example, having a group of people served by one or more doctors paid by government or from a pool contributed by subscribers?" Yes, 72 percent; no, 28 percent.

"Should the U. S. become a member of some kind of international organization of nations after the war?" Yes, 54 percent; no, 46 percent.

INTERNATIONAL PEACE

"After the war, should there be some kind of international police force to maintain peace?" Yes, 79 percent; no, 21 percent.

"After the war, should government undertake an expanded program of public projects to absorb workers: like housing, highways, etc.?" Yes, 81 percent; no, 19 percent.

This is the cover of the National War Relief Committee's new Every Front pamphlet, an all-purpose, straight from the shoulder job outlining the facts about the CIO's war relief program. Copies can be secured by writing to the Committee's national office: 1776 Broadway, New York 19, N.Y.

Our War Labor Board Cases

The table below summarizes the current War Labor Board cases of which the International Office has a record, as of March 2. If your case is not on this list, the reason is that your local has not reported it to the International Office.

Dispute Cases

Pending in Washington

Name	Local	Date Certified
Consolidated Cigar Corp., Lancaster, Pa.	638	Sept. 1, 1943
Fosgate Co., Orlando, Fla.	4	
Four Peanut Co.'s (American, Lummis, Parker, Pond), Suffolk, Va.	26	Aug. 7, 1943
French Benzol & City Cleaners, Miami, Fla.	50	Dec. 5, 1942
Leland Cotton Oil Co., Leland, Miss.	189	Oct. 4, 1943
Pretlow Peanut Co., Franklin, Va.	511	Apr. 1, 1943
Quaker Oats Co., Akron, Ohio	120	Sept. 17, 1943

Pending in Regional Offices

Alaska Salmon Industry, Seattle, Wash.	7	Jan. 19, 1944
Bay Cooperative Canneries, Inc., Essexville, Mich.	82	Feb. 5, 1944
Buckeye Cotton Oil Co., N. Little Rock, Ark	98	Jan. 19, 1944
Buckeye Cotton Oil Co., Memphis, Tenn.	19	Nov. 6, 1943
California Packing Corp. (Cannery Workers only), DeKalb & Rochelle, Ill.	17 & 18	Dec. 16 1943
Consolidated Cigar Corp., Camden, N. J.	80	Oct. 2, 1943
Consumers Lumber & Veneer Co., Apopka, Fla.	4	Feb. 7, 1944
Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert, Lima, Van Wert, Findlay and St. Mary's, Ohio; Detroit, Mich.	58, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73	Oct. 30, 1943
Dunklin County Compress Co., Kennett, Mo.	355	May 12, 1943
Export Leaf, Richmond, Va.	350	Sept 4, 1943
Export Leaf, Winston-Salem, N. C.	TWOC	Oct. 22, 1943
Forrest City Cotton Oil Mill, Forrest City, Ark	109	July 10, 1943
Frazier Packing Corp., Elwood, Ind.	32	Aug. 18, 1943
Hopkinsville Milling Co., Houkinsville, Ky.	195	Feb. 9, 1944
Huron Milling Co., Harbor Beach Mich.	20	Nov. 13, 1943
Imperial Valley Melon Sheds	78	
Land O'Lakes Creameries, Inc., Rush City, Minn.	49	June 15, 1943
Lutheran Cemetery, Maspeth, L.I., N.Y.	293	May 19, 1943
Melon Sheds (36), Imperial Volley, Calif. & Yuma, Ariz.	78	
Marshall Canning Co., Marshalltown, Iowa.	155	June 24, 1943
National Starch Co., Indianapolis, Ind.	92	Nov. 16, 1943
Piedmont Leaf, Winston-Salem, N. C.	TWOC	Oct. 22, 1943
Poinsett Co., Trumann, Ark.	85	Oct. 8, 1943
Quaker Oats Co., St. Joseph, Mo.	125	Nov. 5, 1943

Pending in Regional Offices *(Continued)*

Name	Local	Date Certified
Quaker Oats Co., Cedar Rapids, Iowa	110	Dec. 10, 1943
San Francisco Sardine Ass'n, San Francisco, Calif	7	Sept. 4, 1943
Swift & Co., La Crosse, Wis.	448	Aug. 31, 1943
Winston Leaf, Winston-Salem, N. C.	TWOC	Oct. 22, 1943

Voluntary Wage Cases

Pending in Washington

Name	Local
Larus & Bros. Co., Richmond, Va.	577

Pending in Regional Offices

Abraham Bros., Memphis, Tenn.	19
American Tobacco Co., Charleston, S. C.	TWOC
Arbyrd Compress Co., Arbyrd, Mo.	216
Beutel Pickling Co., Bay City, Mich.	79
Brumder Estates, Inc., Milwaukee, Wis.	107
Buckeye Cotton Oil Co. (Hollywood & Jackson Ave. plant), Memphis, Tenn.	19
Central Jersey Farmers Coop., Hightstown, N. J.	95
Dailey Pickle & Canning Co., Saginaw, Mich.	68
DeCanale & Co., Memphis, Tenn.	19
Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert, Lima, Van Wert, Findlay, St. Mary's, Ohio; Detroit, Mich.	58, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73
Dolly Madison Dairy Co., La Crosse, Wis.	448
Dow Cheese Co., Fond Du Lac, Wis.	341
Elberta Canning Co., Elberta, Mich.	65
J. W. Eshelman & Sons Feed Co., York, Pa.	101
Federal Compress, Helena, Ark.	232
Jiffy Mfg. Co., Hillside, N. J.	154
Kennett Compress, Kennett, Mo.	355
Kraft Cheese, Summitville, Ind.	48
P. Lorillard, Middletown, Ohio	55
Loyalty Bldg., Milwaukee, Wis.	107
Augustus Pollack, Wheeling, W. Va.	252
Quaker Oats Co., Memphis, Tenn.	19
Quaker Oats Co. Akron, Ohio	120
Malone & Hyde, Inc., Memphis, Tenn.	19
Roseland Cemetery, Detroit, Mich.	58
Max Schwarz, New York City	273
Swift's Fertilizer, Harvey, La.	91
Swift's Refinery, Harvey, La	309
V-C Fertilizer, Jacksonville, Fla.	4-A
Van Camp Sea Food Co., San Diego, Calif.	84
Webster-Eisenlohr, Inc., Detroit, Mich.	281
Wilson & Toomer, Jacksonville, Fla.	4-A
Carrot Sheds, Imperial Valley & Yuma	78

THE PEOPLE'S MIGHT

From the Guild Reporter

Join The March To The Polls!

IN order to vote in the primaries, which are as important this year as the November elections, you must not fail to register.

UCAPAWA News continues the list of States where primaries will be held very soon. If your State is included, check carefully and note the dates during which you can register, the date of the primary, and any other special regulations. If your State has not yet been printed in the News, watch for it in forthcoming issues.

Indiana

The Indiana primary is on May 2.

You must have lived six months in the State, 60 days in the township, and 30 days in the ward or precinct to be eligible to vote.

Register in person with the clerk of the circuit court or clerk of your home city or town, any time up to 29 days before election (registration resumed after the primary, on May 15). If you do not move from the county and do not fail to vote within two years, registration is permanent.

Missouri

The Missouri primary is on August 1.

You must have lived one year in the State and 60 days in the county, city or town to be eligible to vote.

Register in person with the clerk of your home county anywhere from 28 to 15 days before election, depending upon the size of the city or town in which you live. Registration is permanent.

New Jersey

The New Jersey primary is on May 16.

You must have lived one year in the State, and five months in the Congressional District to be eligible to vote.

Register ir person only at the County Board of Elections or with the commissioner of registration (except in county seats you may also register before the city or town clerks), any time up to 40 days before election in first-class counties, and up to 28 days before election in all others.

Ohio

The Ohio primary is on May 9.

You must have lived one year in the State, 30 days in the county and 28 days in the precinct to be eligible to vote.

Register in person with the Clerk of the Election Board of your home county any time up to 30 days before election.

Oklahoma

The Oklahoma primary is on July 11.

You must have lived one year in the State, six months in the county and 30 days in the precinct to be eligible to vote.

Register in person before the registrar in your home precinct from June 21 to June 30 for the primary, and from October 18 to October 27 for the November general election. Members of the armed forces are not required to register.

Oregon

The Oregon primary is on May 19.

You must have lived six months in the State and six months in the Congressional District to be eligible to vote.

Register in person, any time up to 30 days before election day, with the clerk in your home county.

Tobacco and Nut Locals Plan To Work Together

Richmond, Va. — The first step was taken in consolidating UCAPAWA locals in the Carolinas and Virginia and toward organizing all tobacco, peanut and other food industry workers at a historic meeting here on Feb. 20, according to Int. Rep. Frank Green.

The meeting was attended by the membership of Locals 350 and 577, the two tobacco locals here; delegates from the Camels plant in Winston-Salem; and delegates from Local 26 of the peanut industry in Suffolk. Conrad Espe, Exec. Vice-Pres., came up with the delegates from Winston-Salem and made the principal speech of the meeting. He expressed the need for a tri-State organizing committee and stated that this meeting was the first step in that direction.

All the delegates reported on progress in their localities and expressed a desire to work more closely with each other in the future.

Trelles Negotiates

The negotiating committee selected by the Trelles unit of Local No. 91 is as follows: Brother Johnny Sisamone and Sisters Rose Schneider, Regina Bozonier, Edna LaBlanc, Cottie Shell and Emelda Peroult. All departments in the plant are represented on the committee.

3 New Locals

74 Ellsworth, Mich. — Emery Wilson, Pres.; Andrew Kooyer, Vice-Pres.; John H. Ruis, Rec. Secy.; Peter John Drenth, Fin. Secy.

Company: Reid Murdock. (Cannery).

119 Ripon, Wis.—Clifford Bank, Pres.; Edward Sebert, Vice-Pres.; Alice Kwiatkoske, Rec. Sec.; Evelyn Goldsmith, Fin. Sec.; Oscan Dreblow, Dorothy Burke, Elsie Keenlance, Trustees; Lucille Sebert, Sgt.-at-Arms.

Company: Land O'Lakes Creameries.

200 Wheeling, West, Va.—Lo-352 has been re-chartered as Stogie Machine Operators and Strippers, Industrial Union 200. Officers of the Local are: Marie Ester, Pres.; Richard Reinhart, Vice-Pres.; Kathryn Huewe, Secy.-Treas.; and Ernest Hubner, Elsie Romanis and Laura Carl, Trustees.

Frieder Pay Goes Up

Philadelphia, Pa.—Already the highest paid cigar workers in this area, Frieder Cigar workers have been granted wage increases ranging from 2 to 5 cents an hour, as the result of a Regional War Labor Board action on a request entered about six weeks ago jointly by management and Local 186, according to Business Agent Carmen Parente.

Increases are retroactive to Nov. 16. Frieder produces Habanello 10 and 20 cent cigars, and Garcia Grand 6 and 10 centers.

Notes from LOCALS

Box Supper

4 Apopka, Fla. — The Consumers Unit is showing what the Union can do, in spite of the Company which is holding back on a new contract. On Feb. 11 the Union spirit was high at the Box Supper and Dance held here, according to Field Rep. Beatrice McCrea.

The boxes were beautifully decorated and "that special guy tried his best to get that special girl's box." With the sale of the boxes, the Local paid the expenses of their hall and transportation to and from the dance. Soldiers from a nearby Army camp had a delightful evening as well, and many asked: "When will we do this again?"

The Entertainment Committee consists of Annell Kirkland, Chairman; Blanche Fisher, Nadine Sherrod, Marie Sherrod and Clara Belle Money.

Mexican Shindig

7 San Francisco, Calif.—Locals 7 and 5-1 are jointly sponsoring a dance in conjunction with the National Maritime Union for the benefit of the Sleepy Lagoon Defense Committee.

The dance, which will be held on March 18, will be a "Mexican Night," replete with colorful Mexican costumes, tasty food and good music.

Mario Hermoso, Chairman of Local 7's Racial Minorities Committee, has announced that this affair is one of the first to be held in San Francisco, as a part of the State-wide campaign of the California CIO Council to raise money to free the 17 Mexican youths who were railroaded to San Quentin in the Sleepy Lagoon Case.

WLB Grants Raises

81 Toledo, Ohio—An increase of 11c per hour, retroactive to March 26, 1943, was granted by the War Labor Board to the Woodlawn Cemetery Unit, to be included in the Local's new contract. Other gains include two weeks' vacation with pay, check-off and union maintenance.

The Michigan Bean Unit has lately been advised that their pay raise has been approved by the WLB. These increases are from 5c to 22½c per hour, retroactive to Jan. 1, 1943.

Negotiations for both cases were handled by Int. Vice-Pres. Robert Clark; Local 81 Pres. Emmett Queen; Fin. Secy. Agnes Wrobel; and the Negotiating Committee.

By Hiram C. Smith, Press Agent

Condemn Congressman

297 Toledo, Ohio — Urging all working people in the Ninth Congressional District to vote against Congressman Homer A. Ramey, "who has proven himself the enemy of labor and the plain people," Woolson Spice Local 297 voted on March 2 to condemn the record of their reactionary Representative.

The resolution adopted by the Local hits hard at Ramey's opposition to the soldiers' vote and subsidies and his violent antagonism to the wishes of his constituents. Copies of the resolution were sent to the Republican committees of the Ninth District, to the International office and to the press.

Local 297 also called upon President Roosevelt to reconsider his request for the enactment of a National Service Act which was characterized by Pres. Murray as "quack medicine" for the manpower problem.

Seek Increases

309 Harvey, La.—Management of Swift's refinery here has been served with a 30 day notice that Local 309 is ready to talk about pay increases. The officers and members of the Local feel that the skyrocketing cost of living in the New Orleans area, one of the highest in the entire United States, makes it their duty to retrieve at least a part of the wages which have been lost through inflation.

They also note the uncertain future of the dollar as a result of recent antics of our national Congress. Members of the Bargaining Committee are Clifton Gaspard, Jesse Gros and George Williams.

By Harry Koger, Int. Rep.

Fighting For Raises

448 La Crosse, Wis.—The Regional War Labor Board has awarded increases to the employees of the Dolly Madison Dairy Co., retroactive to last Fall.

Local 448 is appealing the case of Swift & Co., where wage increases were turned down by the Board in spite of the fact that it was a voluntary negotiated increase and that many of the rates were substandard. New briefs are being filed and the Union has every expectation of winning.

Ceiling Price Violator Bites the Dust

New Orleans, La.—Int. Rep. Harry Koger, who is a member of the OPA Labor Advisory Committee, showed consumers how they can stick up for their rights and crush the Black Markets. By reporting a 15c overcharge to the OPA, Koger was rewarded for his wide-awake patriotism with a $100 check paid to him by the ceiling-price violator. Congratulating him on his victory are (l. to r.): R. W. Starnes, Pres. of the New Orleans CIO Council; Lezin L'Hoste, CIO Field Rep. and Chairman of the District OPA Labor Advisory Committee; Koger; and Fred Pieper, CIO Regional Director for Louisiana.

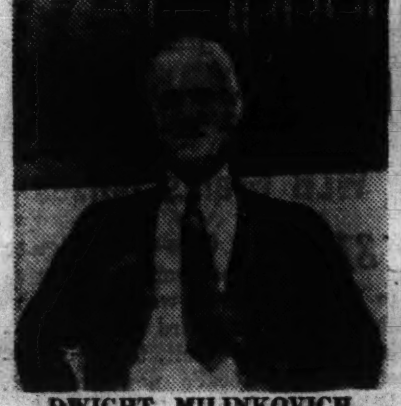
(Picture from the New Orleans News Digest.)

GRAIN PROCESSING DIVISION

Cereal Worker Turns Gardener

By Marlin F. Knight, Press Agent

Akron, Ohio—"It does not take a smart man to see that the Union has done a lot of good for its members," asserted Local 120 member Dwight Milinkovich when he retired on pension on Feb. 29, after working for almost 34 years at the Quaker Oats plant here.



DWIGHT MILINKOVICH

Milinkovich, who worked in the feed department, will always be remembered by the members of Local 120 because of his shyness in joining the Union; but when he was convinced that the Union was solid and had proven itself reliable, he joined and always paid his dues several months in advance.

UNION BRINGS FAIRNESS

Talking about the Union which has battled consistently for the welfare of Quaker employees, Brother Milinkovich said: "I never thought it could happen in the Quaker Oats Company, for the bosses had their way so long. But now when a member has a grievance, he and his Steward go to the boss and tell him what to do about it. In the old days you had to try to be a boss's pet, but now it is seniority that counts."

When asked what he intended to do after retiring, he said he planned to raise a big victory garden to help out in the food shortage, and remarked: "but I will need a little of your Quaker flour and oats to go with my vegetables."

Quaker Local Tops War Bond Quota

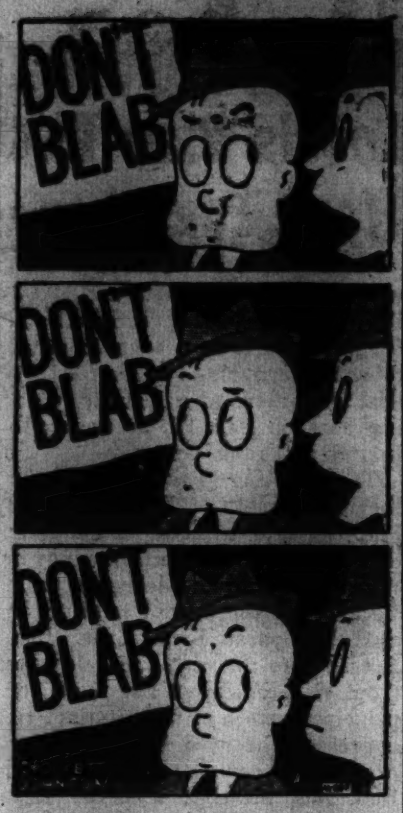
Akron, Ohio — Exceeding their goal in the Fourth War Loan Drive by $6,125, Local 120 members at the Quaker Oats plant here completed the drive by purchasing $26,125 worth of bonds.

Commenting on the successful drive, Local 120 Pres. Hugh Moneypenny, who is also chairman of the plant's Labor-Management Committee, said: "We can have our battles in settling grievances, but when it comes to helping Uncle Sam, we shake hands and come out fighting hand in hand for the same purpose of shortening the war."

The Local is also taking an active part in helping to furnish cigarettes for the boys in service, according to Press Agent Marlin Knight.

Auxiliary Officers

110 Cedar Rapids, Iowa.—The Ladies' Auxiliary elected officers for the coming year. Mrs. Ida Russell was re-elected Pres.; Mrs. Ethel Tweed, re-elected Treas.; Isabelle Davis, re-elected Vice-Pres., and Vilma Moorman, elected Secy.



Sparks Heads Political Action In St. Joseph

St. Joseph, Mo.—As the CIO throughout the State is getting set for an all-out job of registering for the 1944 elections, Jack Sparks, Business Agent of Local 125 (Quaker Oats) was appointed head of the political action committee of the St. Joseph Industrial Union Council.

"We have started the ball rolling to get all CIO members and their friends registered," said Sparks. "Committees will be chosen from all the locals to work with the Council's committee."

Other members of the IUC's political action committee are L. C. Cummings of the United Office and Professional Workers, and Ben Dakon of Local 212, United Packinghouse Workers. Sparks is also UCAPAWA representative on the State CIO Political Action Steering Committee.

Illinois Locals Go All-Out For Politics

By Elizabeth Wroton, Secy., Illinois Org. Comm.

DeKalb, Ill.—With a lively and enthusiastic discussion at its meeting on Feb. 27, the Illinois Organizing Committee swung into action to insure the victory of pro-labor candidates in '44 elections. Local 18 acted as host to the delegates from the other Illinois locals.

After full discussion, during which each delegate opened up and voiced the views of his local's membership on Political Action, the following motions were adopted:

VOTING RECORD CHART

1. The Illinois Organizing Committee understands that in going into Political Action the CIO and UCAPAWA do not endorse any one political party as such, but endorses candidates for office on the basis of the man and his pro-labor record. It was voted that charts should be made up on each candidate, showing his voting record, so that our membership may decide for themselves whether or not a man is pro- or anti-labor.

2. That in each community the UCAPAWA local will work with the CIO Council on Political Action if there is one. If not, the UCAPAWA local will get in touch with other CIO, AFL and RR Brotherhood Unions, with churches and other community organizations for the purpose of forming joint Political Action Committees to work for pro-labor candidates in the primaries and the elections. The Cal Pak locals in DeKalb and Rochelle will make efforts to call general community meetings for the purpose of explaining labor's political role.

REGISTER TO VOTE

3. That the locals will make every effort to see that each member is registered and able to vote in the primaries and the elections; and will see that they get out and vote.

Several delegates expressed the opinion that this was the best meeting of the Illinois Organizing Committee they had attended. Present were: W. H. Wheeler, Andrew Evensen, Enoch Royalty and Curtis Dowden from Local 18, DeKalb; Harold McGill, Edward Mear and Melvin Govig of Local 17, Rochelle; Elmer Rockrohr and Tina Reeves of Local 47, Blue Island; Joe Carfero, Int. Rep., James Horn, Treasurer of the Committee and Elizabeth Wroton, Secretary. A number of members of Local 18, DeKalb, who had been specially invited, also attended.

• At Your Service •

Grievance Slips

A big help to local unions to do an efficient job in handling grievances is the new grievance slip prepared by the International office. It is a simple printed form which will go a long way toward providing a uniform procedure for keeping written records of grievance settlements by every local.

The new grievance slips help you to record the complete data on every grievance case handled by a Shop Steward, including the decisions reached. The local can thereafter keep these slips on file for use in future negotiations.

The International office is selling pads of 50 slips at cost to all locals—25c a pad.

Things To Read

Here are some new and interesting pamphlets which many UCAPAWA members will want to read. You can send for any of these directly to the addresses noted in each case, or better still, order them through your Local:

Subsidies are Fire Engines is an unusually lively explanation of subsidies which everyone will enjoy reading. Try to get this into the hands of those outside the Local, too—preachers, storekeepers, etc. Subsidies will be a burning issue for some time to come. These pamphlets are 5c each, from the UAW-CIO, 411 W. Milwaukee, Detroit 2, Mich.

Greece Fights for Freedom may be obtained from the Greek-American Labor Committee, 253 West 28th St., New York 1, N.Y. It is an exciting account of the resistance movement of the Greek people.

Senator Filibuster tells about the man who was elected by only 3 per cent of his constituents and proceeds to work against the American people. The National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, at 127 B St., SE, Washington 3, D.C., will send you this free of charge in any quantity you request.

The Races of Mankind knocks Hitler's race theories for a loop. Delightfully written and illustrated. Public Affairs Committee, Inc., 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, N.Y. 10c each.

United Nations in America provides useful information on foreign born groups. American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, 23 West 26th St., New York 10, N.Y. 5c each; 100 for $3.50; 500 for $15.00.

North and South of the Border describes CIO activities in establishing closer relations between labor in the United States and labor in the Latin American countries. National CIO, 718 Jackson Place, NW, Washington 6, D.C. 10c each; 100 for $5.50; 500 for $20.00

Labor's Stake in Abolishing the Poll Tax exposes the anti-labor activities of poll tax Congressmen. UAW-CIO, 1324 Maccabees Bldg., Detroit 2, Mich. 10c each; 100 for $8.00.

As We Win tells the CIO's plans for jobs for everybody after the war. National CIO, 718 Jackson Place, NW, Washington 6, D.C. 5c per copy; 4c in quantities of 100 or more.

For The Boys

The Servicemen's Edition of the CIO News, which contains the CIO's program for servicemen as well as the latest news on the fight for the soldiers' vote and other issues of great importance to labor and the men and women on the fighting fronts, should be sent to all members in the armed forces. These can b ordered from CIO News, 718 J..ckson Place, NW, Washington 6, D.C. The cost is 100 for $1.25; 500 for $5.00.

Labor-Management

If you have a labor-management committee in your plant, you will want to subscribe to a paper which is devoted to help such committees improve their effectiveness. That paper is *The Labor-Management News*, published by the War Production Board. Your Local can get its subscription free by writing to Herman Wolf, Information Chief, War Production Drive, War Production Board, Washington, D.C.

UCAPAWA MIKE

Spends A Bad Day With Congress

UCAPAWA MIKE had a strange feeling of foreboding. He didn't know how he got there, but somehow there he was standing alone on Capitol Hill. "Mollie always wanted to visit Washington," Mike remembered, and felt sorry she wasn't there with him.

He felt lonelier still when he found himself in the spacious lobby of the House of Representatives, just outside the legislative chamber. Groups of men were standing around and talking excitedly, and suddenly one of them, a portly, bald-headed fellow broke away from his group and came toward Mike.

"Well, UCAPAWA Mike, this is a pleasure," he bellowed cheerfully as he pumped Mike's hand. "I always remember my constituents," he assured him. "Never forget a voter's face. How are you?"

"Why, you're Congressman Prink," Mike said happily. "We've met before."

Congressman Prink rested a heavy arm on Mike's shoulder and whispered: "How would you like to go inside with me and watch Congress work?" he asked. "Don't worry, I can arrange anything. Representative Feeble is out fishing today, and you can sit right next to me in his seat."

Nobody objected when Mike and Prink walked into the chamber arm in arm, and they seated themselves in the back row.

A hoarse-voiced man was making a loud speech. "That's Congressman Stankin," Prink whispered to Mike.

"States' rights!" Stankin was shouting. "If the federal government authorizes the soldiers' vote, it will destroy that venerable institution of the South—the poll tax. And besides, my friends, if

we make it easy for the servicemen to vote, they will re-elect that man Roosevelt—and we can't let that happen!"

"That's terrible," whispered Mike. "We must give our servicemen the vote."

"No," chortled Prink. "We can't. We must defeat that man Roosevelt."

The Speaker rapped his gavel. "I recognize Representative Stoffman."

"Bah!" hissed Stoffman. "That War Labor Board is getting too much power! Where do they get off trying to raise wages to meet the cost of living. We won't let them get away with it. What will happen to free enterprise? Roosevelt is getting too much power!"

Mike looked at Prink with dismay. "But we must get increases through the War Labor Board," whispered Mike. "Our wages are buying less and less every day."

"That's not the point, Mike," Prink smiled. "Above all, we must stop that man Roosevelt."

"Congressman Staft!" boomed the Speaker of the House.

"I object to the President's attitude toward the Congress!" Staft's thin voice rang through the chamber. "How dare he veto the tax bill which was laboriously composed by the representatives of the people? What if the tax bill doesn't provide enough money to prosecute the war? We can't touch excess profits, or we will destroy initiative."

"Congressman Prink," Mike cried, "what are they doing? Prices going up, taxes going up—but our wages stay the same! Does Congress want chaos? How will we win the war like this?"

"That's not the point, Mike," Prink said excitedly. "Don't you see we have to beat that man Roosevelt. And we are getting strong now. The poll-taxers from the South and the reactionaries from all over are going to run this country the way we like it, not like that man Roo——"

"But we—the people want Roosevelt's program," Mike fairly roared. "We want subsidies and fair taxes. We want our soldiers to vote. We want to win the war and the peace . . ."

"Silence!" shouted the Speaker, banging his gavel.

"We won't be quiet!" Mike shouted back. "We want Congressmen who will serve the people and help us win the war!"

* * *

"Mike, Mike, what's the matter," Mollie shook her husband's shoulder till he opened his eyes.

"Oh, Mollie," Mike turned over in his bed. "Do you know what Congress is doing? If we don't run those no-goods out of Congress this year, they will lose everything for us!"

"Yes, Mike," Mollie said soothingly. "But don't worry. We'll get the people out to vote this year, and we'll send those boys back home for good!"

Church Women Endorse CIO War Program

Orlando, Fla.—"Women struggled for years to win the right to vote. Now let's use this privilege so that it counts," said Rev. Wilna Constable of the Orlando Unitarian Church in introducing UCAPAWA Rep. Mary Welcom who addressed the Layman's League on 'Women In The War.'

"And we can make it count by registering and voting for win-the-war candidates," added Sister Welcom.

The Unitarian Church of Orlando has been friendly and cooperative with UCAPAWA ever since the citrus drive first started in Florida.

"When Fascism is finally destroyed the victory will very largely be due to the hard work and persistance of the anti-Hitler women of the world," said Sister Welcom, pointing out the manifold character of women's work today which includes industry, civilian defense, politics, labor unions and as trained auxiliaries to the armed forces.

The antiquated notion that politics is "men's work" must be destroyed, added the speaker, emphasizing the fact that in two recent Florida municipal elections women cast 62% of the vote. "And if we're going to cast the decisive vote we had better know the issues."

The audience enthusiastically endorsed the CIO position on subsidies, taxes, the soldiers' vote, poll tax repeal and the "equal rights" amendment.

Said Rev. Constable, "I have worked closely with trade unions all over the world and I believe the CIO to be the most genuinely democratic union and the one with the most vital program anywhere in the world.

The Poll Tax Filibuster Can Be Licked By Labor!

Ten Million Americans Want The Right To Vote

"We must do everything we can to keep the Poll Tax. How will I keep my job here if HR 7 is passed?"

THE bill to repeal the poll tax on the vote can, if we fight for it, be made into law this Spring. It restores the right of franchise to 10 million Southern Americans, white and Negro. It would relieve 130 million Americans from the stranglehold of the worst reactionaries in Congress.

The Anti-Poll Tax Bill, HR 7, needs only to pass the Senate and be signed by the President to be the law of the land. Through intrigue and filibuster the poll tax Senators have continually kept the bill from coming to a vote.

Here are four ways in which the poll taxers can be out-maneuvered once and for all:

1. The bill must be kept on the floor.

It must not be tabled, once called up.

It must not be postponed, either for an indefinite period or to a specific date.

Each day, the Senate must vote to recess and not adjourn, otherwise it becomes possible the next day to introduce business other than HR 7.

There must be no "gentlemen's agreement." Such an agreement killed the bill last year by a quiet behind-the-scenes deal to drop the bill before the country understood what was happening.

2. Every Senator must be present.

Every single vote on motions and amendments will be as important as the final vote on the bill because at any point the bill can be disposed of and the fight lost.

Champions of the bill must call for a record vote (not a voice vote) on every motion so that the majority who are pledged for the bill can be held to a public record of their stand.

3. The bill must be kept intact.

Any amendments, changes or additions to HR 7, while appearing simple and justified, would actually throw the entire fight back to where it started a year ago.

Unless HR 7 passes intact, it will have to go through the whole process again in the House.

4. The bill must be brought to a vote.

The filibuster can be broken if two-thirds of the Senators vote for cloture rule to close debate.

Cloture if not successful the first time can be called for over and over again. If the bill is kept on the floor, the rising anger of America can insure a final successful cloture vote.

This year the American people will understand and will make themselves heard. This is your part in the fight: to speak out and to the point.

Write and wire your Senators to follow these four points.

Pres. Murray Hits Phony 'Equal Rights' Amendment

Washington, D. C. (FP)—CIO Pres. Philip Murray warned Congress not to be misled into supporting the so-called equal rights amendment, which, he said, "actually conceals the means of robbing women of many of the rights and protections that have been won for them."

The proposed constitutional amendment was reported favorably by the Senate judiciary committee last year and is now before the house in the form of a discharge petition to bring it on the floor.

WOULD DESTROY RIGHTS

Adoption of the measure "would not secure equality of treatment for women, except at the heavy cost of abandoning the great body of laws that protect women workers from exploitation," Murray said, in a letter to all Congressmen. "It is particularly unwise to destroy these rights and protections at a time when millions of women are carrying out their patriotic duty by working in war industries," he added.

If the equal rights amendment is passed, laws limiting the hours women may be required to work, regulating health and other working conditions, securing minimum wage rates in traditionally low-paid industries, maternity aid, widow's pensions, aid for dependent children and other social security protective measures would be abolished, Murray pointed out.

UCAPAWA SPEAKS UP

A letter to Florida Congressman Green from Int. Rep. Paul Christopher urged Green to withdraw his support to the phony "equal rights" bill on behalf of the large numbers of women workers in the citrus packing industry of Florida.

Political Action Makes Senator See the Light

Washington, D. C. (FP)—Sen. Arthur Vandenberg's (R., Mich.) somersault on subsidies went almost unnoticed in the excitement surrounding the battle between pro and anti-inflation forces in the Senate.

Vandenberg was one of the few Republicans to vote against the ban on subsidies written into the Commodity Credit Corp. bill, which was later vetoed by the President. Long known as a foe of subsidies, Vandenberg surprised his colleagues when he announced his decision to oppose the ban, despite his dislike of subsidies on principle.

NO SURPRISE

But Vandenberg's sudden change of heart did not surprise a delegation from Michigan's food for victory committee, representing 50 organizations with a combined membership of 800,000, which visited the senator during the height of the subsidy battle. Led by Sec.-Treas. Ben Probe of the Michigan CIO, the group presented Vandenberg with a petition signed by 220,000 people demanding retention of subsidies. The formidable list of names, most of them potential voters, impressed Vandenberg enough to make him switch his vote.

GUIDE TO POLITICAL ACTION

By ELIZABETH SASULY
Legislative Director

WAGE INCREASES ARE POLITICS

IN THE last Guide we discussed the question of changing the National Wage Policy and pointed out that what our unions need to put this change across is a political approach, not a "pork chop" approach. This column will continue with specific suggestions on what you and your local can do.

First of all, remember that the average citizen has a very hazy idea about why wage increases are necessary. He gets more confused every time he reads what most newspapers tell him about rich war workers who wear nothing but silks and satins and never make less than $75 a week.

Then take your Congressman. Many Congressmen, even those who consider themselves pro-labor have the peculiar idea that "labor issues" are limited to questions like the Smith-Connally Act. They think if they vote right on such issues this takes care of their labor constituents, regardless of what they do to kill the President's war subsidy or tax program.

Labor Wants Guarantees

Almost every Congressman knows something about "parity prices" which are guaranteed the farmer and which simply mean that the farmers get a higher price for their product when the prices they must pay go up. Labor supports this and is asking for the same kind of guarantees to take care of the increased cost of living and to halt further price increases. The public, which includes the average citizen and your Congressman, must be made to understand these points.

So, at the same time that your local union is negotiating a wage agreement or preparing a WLB dispute case, remember that you can go just so far and no further under present wage policies and that your help is needed in the general fight to get these policies changed and to continue subsidies, without which wage increases can be turned into wage cuts.

You can help by arousing the organizations in your community, and together with them put pressure on your representatives in Congress for our program.

The two most immediate points requiring action are:

Spreading the Facts

1) Spreading the facts about price increases and wages. To do this you must show the "average citizen" and your representatives that prices have actually gone up 43½% (as shown by the Cost of Living study of the CIO and AFL) while wage increases have been allowed only up to 15%. This is a wage cut of 28½%, caused by the failure to carry out the President's stabilization program. You can make these statistics mean more by quoting the wages in your plant when you tell this story to other organizations or your Congressman.

Fighting For Subsidies

2) Carrying out the campaign against further price increases. This means continuation of subsidies. The Republicans in Congress with their poll-tax allies were licked only temporarily when Congress sustained the President's veto of the anti-subsidy bill. These forces are now planning to tack anti-subsidy amendments onto the Economic Stabilization Act and on the OPA Appropriation, counting on the fact that the President cannot veto either of these measures without wrecking price control. (See *Turn the Heat on Congress.*)

And finally, remember that the Register to Vote campaign is Point No. 1 on the agenda. Win this campaign in the 1944 elections.

Turn the Heat On Congress!

Poll Tax Repeal (HR 7)

Gives 10 million citizens the vote for 1944 and after. Coming up very soon in the Senate.

ACTION: Wire your Senators to vote against filibuster and against amendments.

Soldiers' Vote

Present bill sent out of conference on March 7 would allow fewer soldiers to vote than before.

ACTION: Wire your Senators and Congressmen to junk this fraud and return to the original bill.

Stabilization Act

Coming up in the House banking and currency committee, with inflationists planning to attach an anti-subsidy amendment.

ACTION: Write your Congressmen to oppose a subsidy ban in this final battle against higher prices.

"Peace Now"
TREASON IN PIOUS GARB

By Betty Goldstein, Federated Press

(Close on the heels of Teheran, there appeared on the American political horizon a new native fascist organization styling itself Peace Now, dedicated to an immediate negotiated end of the war. Federated Press and UCAPAWA News present here for the first time the organization's background and aims, straight from the lips of its leaders.)

"It would be a mistake to win the war. We should work with fascist Germany and Japan as equals. The only way is peace now without victory. Of course, this means making certain concessions to the fascist nations. But fascism is not something we should fight against . . ."

With these words Miss Bessie Simon, executive secretary of the Peace Now movement, introduced me to the new front organization for all those groups in America seeking to halt the war against Hitler before victory is achieved.

Posing as a group of harmless pacifists preaching peace now for sincere religious reasons, Peace Now uses prayer in its propaganda, holds mass meetings in famous churches, plays in public mainly to women's and religious groups.

It was organized in a Quaker

The building on a secluded side street in New York's lower Harlem to which Peace Now fled after being ejected from a midtown office building.

meeting place in Philadelphia July 11, 1943. Its chairman is a Columbia University professor now on leave at Harvard, Dr. George W. Hartmann. It relies heavily on the hallowed support of such eminent churchmen as the Rev. John Haynes Holmes of the Community Church of New York.

Cover for Treason?

Behind this respectable exterior Peace Now takes up where America First left off. Ex-America Firsters, Coughlinites, Nazi sympathizers, all sorts of native fascists are seeking to use the movement as a cover for their anti-war activities. Peace Now sends out 1,000 pieces of literature every week to individuals and groups all over the country telling them how to organize—to help lose the war.

In Washington reactionary Senators and Congressmen are discussing the political possibilities of Peace Now. Right wing leaders of both the Republican and Democratic parties, I learned, get constant reports of developments in the movement. From Peace Now the first American fascist political machine may hatch in 1944.

Miss Simon revealed the organization's political connection to me in an interview at Peace Now's new hideout. (Recently it was ordered to move out of its midtown office by a landlord who didn't like the notoriety his building was acquiring.)

New Office a Secret

The secrecy of their setup is enough to arouse suspicion. When I telephoned to arrange for the interview I was told to go to a certain address on a side street in lower Harlem in New York.

I arrived, found myself in an apartment house—but no sign of Peace Now. A few minutes later a plump women came in from outside, looked me over, whispered: "Are you looking for Miss Simon?" She led me outside and around the block, down some stairs and into a dark basement apartment.

All ver the room were pink and green and white handbills. "HOW MANY TIMES A DAY DO YOU WISH THE WAR WERE OVER? stood out in a black banner on a pink background. "ARE YOU DOING ANYTHING MORE THAN WISHING TO STOP THE WAR?"

"ARE YCU GOING TO CONTINUE TO LET YOUR SONS' LIVES PAY FOR YOUR SINS OF OMISSION? Send us what you can give—what you feel you SHOULD give — DON'T HAVE IT ON YOUR CONSCIENCE THAT YOU DID NOTHING TO STOP THE SLAUGHTER."

'Keep Faith With Hitler'

Tables were piled high with brown booklets labeled "Must the Killing Go On? A Peace Catechism." Stacked on the floor were bundles of white leaflets with questions and answers. "Can we do business with Hitler?" one asked. "Yes. But we must keep faith, too!"

Behind a desk at the back of the room sat Miss Simon, a thin women with mousy hair and pale lips. She folded and unfolded her long hands, looked over my head as she talked.

"We want a negotiated peace at the earliest possible moment," she said. "We should work with the fascist nations as equals. We are all God's children and must live and work together."

"It would be a mistake for either side to win victory in the war," she explained. "It would throw the whole international economic scheme out of balance. All the power would be on one side—the democracies would be able to dominate Germany, Italy and Japan."

"If the Allies insist on winning the war," she went on, "the Axis nations would be resentful. Soon there would be another war. As Herbert Hoover said," she paused respectfully, "we can have victory without peace or peace without victory. So we want peace."

Suddenly she broke off. "Who is the enemy?" she shot the question. I said: "The fascists are the enemy." Not in the opinion of Peace Now. "We don't think in terms of one side against the other," Miss Simon explained. "We don't think of fascists as the enemy."

Had she read about the Japanese atrocities and the cruelty of the Nazis in Poland? She shrugged her shoulders and laughed. "Viciousness only ceases by kindness," she said sweetly. "Why do you keep harping about fascism? It's not something to fight against."

"Does this mean you want fascism to stay where it was already in power?" I asked. "What if the fascist aggressors kept on trying to conquer other nations?" She was patient. "Why should we want to punish fascist aggression any more than we would want them to punish us?" she answered calmly.

'What Is Fascism?'

What about all the democracies the Axis has defeated and forced under fascist dictatorship as slave nations? "What difference does it make?" she returned.

The plump woman was over in a corner addressing envelopes. She murmured, "What is fascism?"

"Yes, what is fascism?" Miss Simon demanded sternly. "You're so concerned with this fascism." Her voice jumped high and shrill. "Fascism, fascism, fascism!" A knuckle cracked in her folding-unfolding hands. "We're not interested in fascism."

A little man with a pointed beard ran in from the adjoining room with a big dictionary and whispered to Miss Simon. I caught the words "sociologist's definition." She looked, sniffed, shut the book with a snap. "Fascism is just the name of a political party," she said. "Of course, some expressions of it may be vicious." She looked as if she were not quite sure. Her voice trailed off:

"Hitler should be got rid of, I suppose . . ."

Through Miss Simon, the Peace Now movement is turning into a new American First Committee, only more sinister. Miss Simon was office manager in the American First Washington headquarters. To the new organization she brought not only the ideas of the old, but its membership lists and her contacts among its important leaders and supporters.

Contacts in Washington

From the beginning she has maintained contact with isolationist Senators Burton K. Wheeler (D., Mont.), Gerald P. Nye (R., N. D.) and Representatives Clare E. Hoffman (R., Mich.), Hamilton Fish (R., N. Y.).

At Nye's suggestion, Miss Simon wrote in the fall of 1943 to Gen. Robert E. Wood, national chairman of America First, asking him to "head up" Peace Now when the time came for it to enter the political limelight.

On Nov. 10 she wrote to Col. Charles A. Lindbergh, most famous America Firster: "Peace Now could become a political instrument if the right person were to head it up. Will you consider our proposal that you use our beginning as a nucleus to coordinate the constructive forces in America."

Proud of America First

Besides America Firsters, Peace Now has welcomed to its ranks known Nazi sympathizers. Recommending a man now being investigated by the FBI, Hartmann wrote Miss Simon from Harvard Oct. 27: "He is either an old Bundist sympathizer or a Coughlinite, but I think there is some chance we can use his energies constructively."

Hartmann also told her to "keep in close contact" with a "live wire" named Edward Holton James. James had been indicted on charges of sedition in 1942 for publishing handbills demanding Pres. Roosevelt's resignation and urging collaboration with the Axis.

Even a Nazi detained at Ellis Island seemed desirable to Peace Now. Hartmann wrote Walter Heinrich, an alien: "We believe you appreciate the values which are at stake in our work."

When I asked Miss Simon about the native American fascists and Nazi sympathizers in Peace Now's ranks, she replied: "It's up to the FBI to round up the fascists here. It's not our job." She mentioned with pride that the Dies committee was investigating Peace Now and so far "had no objections."

Planning Political Move

Peace Now is definitely planning to move into politics in 1944. Miss Simon told FP that there was "some discussion" of converting it into a third political party. "I don't say that nothing will come of it," she said. "I just don't know yet."

Chairman Harrison Spangler of the Republican Natl. Committee and ex-Chairman James Farley of the Democratic Natl. Committee receive daily reports of developments in Peace Now, Miss Simon revealed. She spoke of Hoover with great respect, saying that the election of either Wendell L. Willkie or Roosevelt would be a "national catastrophe."

Peace Now will "throw its weight in the election against any forces in any political party trying to push winning the war," Miss Simon said. "We will work with any faction in any political party trying to work against the war."

In Peace Now's first mass meeting in Carnegie Hall in New York, Dec. 30, Hartmann lashed out bitterly at Pres. Roosevelt. Denouncing FDR's "brutal slogan of Unconditional Surrender," he said:

"It's about time some of us realized that Adolf is not the only Hitler who pushes people around. It is no accident that the New Deal, which began by killing pigs, ended by killing the children of Europe and Asia." The Nazis and Japanese "are no better but also no worse than the British and the Americans . . . As an American, I apologize to the entire world for the harm done by our mistaken foreign policy," he said.

'We Do Not Believe in Teheran'

Immediate aim of Peace Now is postponement of the invasion of Europe. "We hope to God the second front never will be opened," Miss Simon told me. She paused mysteriously. "There are straws in the wind that a negotiated peace is going to come sooner than you think."

Peace Now plays up every rumor of a split among the United Nations. Miss Simon said she hoped it was true that the Nazi von Ribbentrop had met with a high British official to discuss a separate peace.

"We do not believe in Teheran," she sniffed.

Miss Bessie Simon, Peace Now executive secretary, shown with Dr. George W. Hartmann, chairman of the organization, now teaching at Harvard on a leave of absence from Columbia University.